

## SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### Minutes

Thursday, February 18, 2016

**Present:** Kathy Bagley, Kathi Liberman, Christine Taylor, Tony Martino, Joe Mehan, Claire Mehan, Henry Hornat, Pastor Chris Skowronek, Lisa Galipo

Absent: Agnes Bolasevich, Barbara Higbee, Henry Higbee

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm.

**Minutes:** A motion was made by Christine Taylor and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Claire Mehan to approve the minutes from the January 21, 2016 meeting.

### **Old Business:**

- **Financial Update:** Lisa Galipo reported that there is a balance of \$800 in our account, which is in-line with our 2015 spending pattern.
- **Committee Membership:** Kathi Liberman led a discussion regarding the existing vacancies on this committee. A question was raised that with the dissolution of the Seniors Club, should the membership position for the "Seniors Club President" be eliminated? Kathy Bagley suggested that perhaps the entire structure of the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee be reviewed. No recommendations were made at this time. Kathy Bagley will print out copies of the current committee membership list for distribution at the next meeting.

### **New Business:**

- **Annual Conference:** Lisa Galipo/Kathi Liberman/Chris Taylor/Joe Mehan reported that the theme for the May 12 event would be K.I.S.S. (Keep It Simple Seniors). Topics to be discussed and explained are: (1) comparing electrical suppliers to lower your utility bill; (2) solar panels, pros and cons; (3) reverse mortgages, pros and cons; (4) assisted living, pros and cons. The committee for this event will meet again immediately after the SCAC meeting.

### **Committee Reports:**

- **Council Liaison:** Tony Martino reported:
  - The Board of Ed has been meeting regarding the annual budget, which is currently at a 2.4% increase over the current budget.
  - The Capital Improvements Committee has been meeting to discuss various suggested projects.
  - The Town of Wethersfield is considering purchasing street lights and converting them to LED lighting. This would drastically reduce the town's utility bills.
  - Purchase orders have been completed and approved for changes to the High School for the installation of projection equipment.
  - Wethersfield Early Childhood Collaborative gave a presentation to the Town Council.
- **Wethersfield Housing Authority:** Kathi Liberman reported
  - The apartments on Butler St. and the Administration Building are getting solar panels to benefit the common areas. Renovations to the family units are ongoing.

- Clergy: Pastor Chris Skowronek reported:
  - A list of senior activities at the various churches in town is being compiled.
  - CenterPoint Community Church recently held a Comedy Night to help collect items for the Wethersfield Food Bank.
- Elderly Services Coordinator/Municipal Agent: Chris Taylor reported
  - CRT Energy Assistance program ends May 1.
  - Operation Fuel is underway, trying to match requests for oil with donations that have been made.
  - The Renters Rebate program runs from April 1 until October 1.
  - The Nutmeg State Games schedule is now available. Events start as early as March. Check their website for complete details. Visit their website: [www.NutmegStateGames.org](http://www.NutmegStateGames.org) or email them at: [info@nutmegstategames.org](mailto:info@nutmegstategames.org)
  - The CT Masters Games are also underway. This is a multi-sport festival of Olympic-style competition for CT's master amateur athletes. Visit their website: [www.CtMastersGames.org](http://www.CtMastersGames.org) for more information.
  - The North Central Area Agency on Aging is asking residents to write to their state senator and/or Representative and ask them to support CT's family caregivers and to protest the proposed cuts in the state's budget, which would affect individuals suffering from Alzheimer's Disease and other dementias. Visit their website: [www.ncaaact.org](http://www.ncaaact.org).
  - Volunteers for the Friendly Visitor/Friendly Shopper program have been coming forth and taking the training program.
  - Mitchell on the Park, 226 Prospect St., has apartment vacancies. Brochures are available. Call 860-233-6281.
  - Please be aware: Residents have reported a number of telephone scams involving callers who claim to be with the IRS, or other government agencies. These are NOT valid.
- People with Disabilities: Chris Taylor reported:
  - The Transition Academy's move to a new location is still pending.
  - An open meeting on transportation is scheduled for March 16 at First Church Village, 117 Wells Rd., at 7:00 pm. The public is invited to attend.
- Parks & Rec.: Kathy Bagley reported:
  - New flooring has been installed on the West Wing of the Community Center.
- Senior Center Activities: Lisa Galipo reported:
  - Several mini-trips have been scheduled for 2016 including trips to Bow Tie Theater, Mark Twain House, Beardsley Zoo, and Gillette Castle.

The next meeting is March 17, 2016 at 3:00 pm.

A motion to adjourn was made by Chris Taylor, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Claire Mehan. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joseph Mehan